



VFW Auxiliary Department of NH Mentoring for Leadership
Ensure a Positive Member Experience. Engage in Learning and Training Opportunities
Develop and Empower Members for Leadership Roles
January 2023

Some ideas to help engage new members:



Call or email the new member introducing yourself. Offer your contact information should that new member have any questions. If your Auxiliary has a website or Facebook page, tell them about it so they can see what's going on.

Invite this new member as soon as possible to whatever event is coming up next, whether it be a meeting or something else. Offer to pick him or her up. Or if it's a family event, be sure to say that anyone can come. They might feel more comfortable coming with their family or friend.

Because people are very busy these days, be sure to send a reminder at least three days out from the event. At the event or if they come to the Post Home for a social event, there is ONE THING you can do when they step through that door. If the new member says,



“How can I help?”, stop right then and there and find a way for them to help. DO NOT tell them, “Oh don't worry, I've got it. Let them pitch in, everyone wants to feel needed and a part of things. See if they have any new ideas and be open to them.

The goal is to maintain contact with a member in order to engage him or her.

Once you have engaged that member and extended that hand of friendship, continue to nurture that relationship. There is so much to learn and learning it from a friend is the best way to develop future leaders.

Mentoring is based on relationships. No matter the different backgrounds and cultures members may come from, they all have something in common: veterans. Start each relationship from that common ground, and build on it with time, patience and caring.

Happy New Year! Stay well and God Bless,
MJ

Mary-Jane Ryan
VFW Aux. Dept. of NH Chief of Staff 2022-2023

My Reason to Live is my Reason to Give of Myself to mentor and encourage our members with their ***Hands that serve, Hearts that Care.***